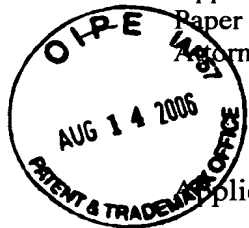


Application No. 10/540,365
Paper Dated: August 11, 2006
Attorney Docket No. 2204-051771



1742 IFW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/540,365
Applicants : Hiroshi MORIKAWA et al.
Filed : June 23, 2005
Title : WORK-HARDENED MATERIAL FROM
STAINLESS STEEL
Art Unit : 1742
Examiner Name : Not Yet Assigned
Confirmation No. : 3495
Customer No. : 28289

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants hereby submit this
Information Disclosure Statement together with a completed Form PTO/SB/08A.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the
United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope
addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 11, 2006.

Bruce L. White

(Name of Person Mailing Paper or Fee)

Bruce L. White

Signature

08/11/2006

Date

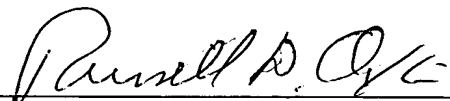
Japanese patents JP 63-169330, JP 11-302791, and JP 2001-262282 are discussed in the Applicants' specification on pages 1-2 and are relevant for reasons discussed therein. English-language abstracts of these patents are included herewith.

In addition, Japanese patents JP 4-65141, JP 2-18379, JP 8-246105, JP 5-255816, and JP 2002-194505 were cited in an International Search Report (ISR) dated November 16, 2004. These references have all been designated as "Category A" references in the ISR, indicating that they are not considered to be of particular relevance. Furthermore, the International Preliminary Examination Report (IPER) dated November 16, 2004, indicates that the claims in the PCT application meet the international standards of patentability. A courtesy copy of the ISR and IPER are enclosed herewith for the Examiner's convenience.

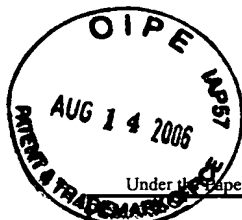
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3), no fee is believed to be due for the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement as it is being submitted before a first Office Action on the merits. Nevertheless, the Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. 23-0650. One (1) original and two (2) copies of this Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

THE WEBB LAW FIRM

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PTO/SB/08a (07-05)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

1

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/540,365
Filing Date	June 23, 2005
First Named Inventor	Hiroshi MORIKAWA
Art Unit	1742
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	2204-051771

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	1.	JP 63-169330	07/13/1988	T. TERUO et al.	Abstract	
	2.	JP 11-302791	11/02/1999	Y. AKIO et al.	Abstract	
	3.	JP 2001-262282	09/26/2001	O. YOSHIHIRO et al.	Abstract	
	4.	JP 4-65141	11/06/1990	U. MASANORI	Abstract	
	5.	JP 2-18379	09/20/1984	U. MASANORI	Abstract	
	6.	JP 8-246105	09/24/1996	T. HIDEKAZU et al.	Abstract	
	7.	JP 5-255816	10/05/1993	I. SATOSHI et al.	Abstract	
	8.	JP 2002-194505	07/10/2002	F. HIROSHI et al.	Abstract	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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